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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for use in monitoring spaces affording restricted access, comprising:  
an access panel including a door and a frame peripherally surrounding said door, said door being attached to said frame; and  
a cage attached to said access panel frame, said cage having a plurality of openings for ensuring fluid communication between an interior portion of the cage and a surrounding space;  
wherein said access panel is fire protection rated.
2. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said cage comprises expanded metal.
3. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, and further comprising an environmental sensing device secured to said cage.
4. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein said sensing device comprises a smoke detector.
5. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein said sensing device comprises a heat sensor.
6. (Previously Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said cage is welded to the frame of said access panel.

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7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, and further comprising a shelf disposed in the interior portion of said cage.

9. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 8, wherein said shelf is comprised of metal.

10. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 9, wherein said shelf is comprised of expanded metal, and is welded to said cage.

11. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 8, and further comprising at least one environmental sensing device disposed on said shelf.

12. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein the at least one environmental sensing device is attached to an underneath surface of said shelf.

13.- 20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in Claim 1, wherein said cage comprises side and rear walls and each of said walls include some of said plurality of openings.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in Claim + 26, wherein said access panel is fire protection rated.

23. (New) An apparatus for use in monitoring spaces affording restricted access, comprising:

an access panel including a door and a frame peripherally surrounding said door, said door being attached to said frame;

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a cage attached to said access panel frame, said cage having a plurality of openings for ensuring fluid communication between an interior portion of the cage and a surrounding space; and

an environmental sensing device secured to said cage.

24. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 23, wherein said sensing device comprises a smoke detector.

25. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 23, wherein said sensing device comprises a heat sensor.

26. (New) An apparatus for use in monitoring spaces affording restricted access, comprising:

an access panel including a door and a frame peripherally surrounding said door, said door being attached to said frame; and

a cage attached to said access panel frame, said cage having a plurality of openings for ensuring fluid communication between an interior portion of the cage and a surrounding space;

wherein said apparatus extends through a fire-rated wall, said access panel being substantially flush-mounted on a first surface of said wall, and said cage extending from a second opposed surface of said wall.

27. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 26, wherein said cage comprises expanded metal.

28. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 26, and further comprising an environmental sensing device secured to said cage.

29. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 28, wherein said sensing device comprises a smoke detector.

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30. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 28, wherein said sensing device comprises a heat sensor